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March 4th 2009

EXHIBIT 3
DATE 3/4/09
HB 30

TO: Senate State Administration Committee

FROM: Joy Bruck, volunteer advocate for AARP Montana

RE: Support of HB 30, Youth Election Judges

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Joy Bruck and I'm a volunteer advocate for AARP Montana, a non-partisan organization of 165,000 members. AARP Montana believes the right to vote, along with full and fair representation, is the most basic of all political rights.

Serving as an election judge for many years, I know how difficult it has been to find enough judges to serve and, as we know, election judges are critical for the election to run smoothly. AARP Montana and I believe that by allowing qualified younger Montanans to staff polling places, working with experienced judges, will be so much better for the process as well as the Clerks and Recorders.

Furthermore, allowing younger Montanans a chance to act as an election judge will give them beneficial insight into and appreciation of the elections process.

AARP Montana advocates for a system of voting standards that should ensure that the voting process is not burdensome. House Bill 30 helps to make the election process streamlined without sacrificing the integrity of the ballot booth.